

IN THE CLAIMS

The state of claims is as follows:

1.(Currently Amended) An eddy current brake mechanism comprising:

~~_____ a diamagnetic or non-magnetic member;~~
 a fixed linear array of permanent magnets;
 a moveable linear array of permanent magnets disposed in a parallel relationship with said fixed linear array of permanent magnets; ~~for enabling passage of the member therebetween; and~~
_____ a diamagnetic or non-magnetic member disposed for parallel movement between the fixed and moveable linear arrays of magnets; and
 apparatus for adjusting eddy current induced in the member, and concomitant braking force against the member parallel movement, through lateral by parallel movement of said movable linear array of permanent magnets.

2.(Original) The brake mechanism according to claim 1 wherein the apparatus comprises an actuator disposed in an operational relationship with said movable linear array of permanent magnets.

3.(Currently Amended) The brake mechanism according to claim 1 wherein the apparatus comprises a spring attached to said movable linear array of permanent magnets for enabling the lateral movement of the moveable linear array to be a function of velocity of the member between the magnet arrays.

4.(Cancelled)

5.(Cancelled)

6.(Cancelled)

7.(Cancelled)

8.(Cancelled)